

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Amended) A hub for use in conjunction with a spool having a quantity of material wrapped thereon, the material having a number of known characteristics, the hub comprising:

a core including a central axis;

the core being structured to be disposed on the spool;

an indication member;

the indication member including a support and at least a first tab, and a second tab;

the at least first tab being an at least first home tab and defining a home position of the indication member;

the second tab being a characteristic tab;

the support being mounted on the core;

the at least first tab and second tabs being disposed on the support; and

the at least first tab and second tabs each including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis of the core;

the second tab being oriented at one of a plurality of known angles with respect to the at least first home tab; and

the orientation of the second tab with respect to the at least first home tab corresponding with the characteristics of the material.

2. (Original) The hub of Claim 1,

wherein the indication member is generally flat; and

the support and the at least first tab being generally coplanar.

3. (Amended) The hub of Claim 1,

wherein the indication member further includes a second tab;

~~the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis of the core; and~~

~~the indication member being~~ is a monolithically-formed single-piece member.

4. (Original) The hub of Claim 3,
wherein the support extends between the at least first and second tabs;
the support being at least partially arcuate.

5. (Original) The hub of Claim 1,
wherein the support is an elongated arcuate member; and
the at least first tab extending generally perpendicularly away from the support.

6. (Original) The hub of Claim 1,
wherein the at least first tab extends from the support in a direction generally away from
the central axis.

7. (Original) The hub of Claim 1,
wherein the at least first tab extends from the support in a direction generally toward the
central axis.

8. (Original) The hub of Claim 1,
wherein the support is generally ring-shaped.

9. (Amended) The hub of Claim 1,
wherein the indication member further includes a second tab;
the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction
with respect to the central axis of the core;
the support including includes a first support portion and a second support portion that
are separated from one another;
the at least first tab being disposed on and extending from the first support portion; and
the second tab being disposed on and extending from the second support portion.

10. (Original) The hub of Claim 1,
wherein the support is substantially embedded in the core.

11. (Amended) [The hub of Claim 10,] A hub for use in conjunction with a spool,
the hub comprising:

a core including a central axis;
the core being structured to be disposed on the spool;
an indication member;
the indication member including a support and at least a first tab;
the support being mounted on the core;
the at least first tab being disposed on the support; and
the at least first tab including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial
direction with respect to the central axis of the core
the support being substantially embedded in the core;
wherein the at least first tab is substantially embedded in the core;
a window is formed in the core; and
the window extending between the at least first tab and the exterior of the core.

12. (Original) The hub of Claim 1,
wherein the indication member is at least partially metallic.

13. (Amended) A hub for use in conjunction with a spool having a quantity of
material wrapped thereon, the material having a number of known characteristics, the hub
comprising:

a core having a central axis and being structured to be disposed on the spool; and
an indication member;
the indication member including a support and, at least a first tab, and a second tab;
the at least first tab being an at least first home tab and defining a home position of the
indication member;
the second tab being a characteristic tab;
the support being mounted on the core;
the at least first tab and second tabs being disposed on the support;
the at least first and second tabs each including an elongated dimension that extends in a
generally radial direction with respect to the central axis of the core;

the second tab being oriented at one of a plurality of known angles with respect to the at least first home tab; and

the orientation of the second tab with respect to the at least first home tab corresponding with the characteristics of the material; and

the support and, the at least first tab, and the second tab each being of a generally planar configuration.

14. (Amended) The hub of Claim 13,

wherein the support and, the at least first tab, and the second tab are generally coplanar.

15. (Amended) The hub of Claim 13,

wherein the core includes a central axis; and

the at least first tab including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to is structured to be rotated about the central axis, the rotational distance between the home position and the second tab corresponding with the characteristics of the material.

16. (Amended) The hub of Claim 15,

wherein the indication member further includes a second tab;

the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis of the core; and

the indication member being is a monolithically-formed single-piece member.

17. (Original) The hub of Claim 16,

wherein the support extends between the at least first and second tabs;

the support being at least partially arcuate.

18. (Original) The hub of Claim 15,

wherein the at least first tab extends from the support in a direction generally away from the central axis.

19. (Original) The hub of Claim 15,
wherein the at least first tab extends from the support in a direction generally toward the central axis.

20. (Original) The hub of Claim 13,
wherein the support is an elongated arcuate member; and
wherein the at least first tab extends generally perpendicularly away from the support.

21. (Original) The hub of Claim 13,
wherein the support is generally ring-shaped.

22. (Amended) The hub of Claim 13,
~~wherein the indication member further includes a second tab;~~
~~the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis of the core;~~
~~the support including includes a first support portion and a second support portion that are separated from one another;~~
the at least first tab being disposed on and extending from the first support portion; and
the second tab being disposed on and extending from the second support portion.

23. (Original) The hub of Claim 13,
wherein the support is substantially embedded in the core.

24. (Amended) [The hub of Claim 13,] A hub for use in conjunction with a spool,
the hub comprising:
a core structured to be disposed on the spool; and
an indication member;
the indication member including a support and at least a first tab;
the support being mounted on the core;
the at least first tab being disposed on the support;
the support and the at least first tab each being of a generally planar configuration;

wherein the at least first tab is substantially embedded in the core;
a window being formed in the core; and
the window extending between the at least first tab and the exterior of the core.

25. (Original) The hub of Claim 13,
wherein the indication member is at least partially metallic.

26. (Amended) A detectable spool for use in a printer, the detectable spool comprising:

a spool including a central axis and being structured to have a quantity of material wrapped thereon, the material having a number of known characteristics;

indication means disposed on the spool;

the indication means including an indication member;

the indication member including a support and, at least a first tab, and a second tab; and

the at least first tab and second tabs each including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis;

the at least first tab being an at least first home tab and defining a home position of the indication member;

the second tab being a characteristic tab;

the second tab being oriented at one of a plurality of known angles with respect to the at least first home tab; and

the orientation of the second tab with respect to the at least first home tab corresponding with the characteristics of the material.

27. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 26,
wherein the indication member is generally flat; and
the support and the at least first tab being generally coplanar.

28. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 26,
wherein the indication member further includes a second tab;

~~the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis; and~~

the indication member being is a monolithically-formed single-piece member.

29. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 28,
wherein the support extends between the at least first and second tabs;
the support being at least partially arcuate.

30. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 26,
wherein the support is an elongated arcuate member; and
the at least first tab extending generally perpendicularly away from the support.

31. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 26,
wherein the at least first tab extends from the support in a direction generally away from the central axis.

32. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 26,
wherein the at least first tab extends from the support in a direction generally toward the central axis.

33. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 26,
wherein the support is generally ring-shaped.

34. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 26,
wherein the indication member further includes a second tab;
~~the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis;~~
the support including includes a first support portion and a second support portion that are separated from one another;
the at least first tab being disposed on and extending from the first support portion; and
the second tab being disposed on and extending from the second support portion.

35. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 26, wherein the indication means further includes a core; the support being substantially embedded in the core; and the core being disposed on the spool.

36. (Amended) [The detectable spool of Claim 35,] A detectable spool for use in a printer, the detectable spool comprising:

a spool including a central axis;

indication means disposed on the spool;

the indication means including an indication member;

the indication member including a support and at least a first tab;

the at least first tab including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis

the indication means further including a core;

the support being substantially embedded in the core;

the core being disposed on the spool;

wherein the at least first tab is substantially embedded in the core;

a window being formed in the core; and

the window extending between the at least first tab and the exterior of the core.

37. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 26,

wherein the indication member is at least partially metallic.

38. (Amended) A detectable spool for use in a printer, the detectable spool comprising:

a spool having a central axis and being structured to have a quantity of material wrapped thereon, the material having a number of known characteristics; and

indication means disposed on the spool;

the indication means including an indication member;

the indication member including a support and, at least a first tab, and a second tab;

the at least first tab being an at least first home tab and defining a home position of the indication member;

the second tab being a characteristic tab;

the at least first and second tabs each including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis of the core;

the second tab being oriented at one of a plurality of known angles with respect to the at least first home tab; and

the orientation of the second tab with respect to the at least first home tab corresponding with the characteristics of the material; and

the support and, the at least first tab, and the second tab each being of a generally planar configuration.

39. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 38,

wherein the support and, the at least first tab, and the second tab are generally coplanar.

40. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 38,

wherein the spool includes a central axis; and

the at least first tab including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis indication member is a thin sheet of an at least partially metallic material.

41. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 40,

wherein the indication member further includes a second tab;

the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis; and

the indication member being is a monolithically-formed single-piece member.

42. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 41,

wherein the support extends between the at least first and second tabs;

the support being at least partially arcuate.

43. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 38,
wherein the spool includes a central axis; and
the at least first tab extending extends from the support in a direction generally away
from the central axis.

44. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 38,
wherein the spool includes a central axis; and
the at least first tab extending extends from the support in a direction generally toward
the central axis.

45. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 38,
wherein the support is an elongated arcuate member; and
the at least first tab extending generally perpendicularly away from the support.

46. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 38,
wherein the support is generally ring-shaped.

47. (Amended) The detectable spool of Claim 38,
wherein the spool includes a central axis;
the indication member further including a second tab;
the second tab having an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction
with respect to the central axis;
the support including includes a first support portion and a second support portion that
are separated from one another;
the at least first tab being disposed on and extending from the first support portion; and
the second tab being disposed on and extending from the second support portion.

48. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 38,
wherein the indication means further includes a core;
the support being substantially embedded in the core; and
the core being disposed on the spool.

49. (Amended) [The detectable spool of Claim 48,] A detectable spool for use in a printer, the detectable spool comprising:

a spool; and

indication means disposed on the spool;

the indication means including an indication member;

the indication member including a support and at least a first tab;

the support and the at least first tab each being of a generally planar configuration;

the indication means further including a core;

the support being substantially embedded in the core;

the core being disposed on the spool;

wherein the at least first tab is substantially embedded in the core;

a window being formed in the core; and

the window extending between the at least first tab and the exterior of the core.

50. (Original) The detectable spool of Claim 38,

wherein the indication member is at least partially metallic.

51. (Amended) A hub for use in conjunction with a spool having a quantity of material wrapped thereon, the material having a number of known characteristics, the hub comprising:

a core including a central axis;

the core being structured to be disposed on the spool; and

an indication member;

the indication member including a support and a plurality of tabs;

a first tab of the plurality of tabs being an at least first home tab and defining a home position of the indication member;

a second tab of the plurality of tabs being a characteristic tab;

the support being mounted on the core;

the tabs being disposed on the support;

the at least first and second tabs each including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the central axis of the core;

the second tab being oriented at one of a plurality of known angles with respect to the at least first home tab; and

the orientation of the second tab with respect to the at least first home tab corresponding with the characteristics of the material; and

the support extending between the tabs.

52. (Original) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the indication member is generally flat; and
the support and the tabs being generally coplanar.

53. (Original) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the indication member is a monolithically-formed single-piece member.

54. (Original) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the support is at least partially arcuate.

55. (Original) The hub of Claim 54,
wherein the tabs each extend generally perpendicularly away from the support.

56. (Original) The hub of Claim 54,
wherein the support is generally ring-shaped.

57. (Original) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the support includes a central axis; and
the tabs extend from the support in a direction generally away from the central axis.

58. (Original) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the support includes a central axis; and
wherein the tabs extend from the support in a direction generally toward the central axis.

59. (Amended) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the support includes a first support portion and a second support portion that are separated from one another;

one of the tabs being disposed on and extending from the first support portion; and
another of the tabs being disposed on and extending from the second support portion.

60. (Original) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the support is substantially embedded in the core.

61. (Amended) [The hub of Claim 60,] A hub for use in conjunction with a spool,
the hub comprising:

a core including a central axis;

the core being structured to be disposed on the spool; and

an indication member,

the indication member including a support and a plurality of tabs;

the support being mounted on the core;

the tabs being disposed on the support; and

the support extending between the tabs;

the support being substantially embedded in the core;

wherein the tabs are substantially embedded in the core;

a plurality of windows being formed in the core; and

the windows each extending between one of the tabs and the exterior of the core.

62. (Amended) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the core is colored according to the specific arrangement of the tabs with respect
to the support, the color of the core corresponding with the orientation of the second tab with
respect to the at least first home tab.

63. (Amended) The hub of Claim 62,

wherein the core is formed of a material having a color ~~according to the specific arrangement of the tabs with respect to the support corresponding with the orientation of the second tab with respect to the at least first home tab.~~

64. (Original) The hub of Claim 51,
wherein the indication member is at least partially metallic.

65. (Amended) A indication member for incorporation into a detectable spool for use in a printer, the spool having a quantity of material wrapped thereon, the material having a number of known characteristics, the printer including a sensing apparatus, the indication member comprising:

a support;
a plurality of tabs;
a first tab of the plurality of tabs being an at least first home tab and defining a home position of the indication member;
a second tab of the plurality of tabs being a characteristic tab;
the support extending between the at least first and second tabs;
the at least first and second tabs each including an elongated dimension that extends in a generally radial direction with respect to the support;
the second tab being oriented at one of a plurality of known angles with respect to the at least first home tab; and
the orientation of the second tab with respect to the at least first home tab corresponding with the characteristics of the material;
the at least first and second tabs protruding from the support; and
the tabs being structured to be detectable by the sensing apparatus.

66. (Original) The indication member of Claim 65,
wherein the indication member is generally flat; and
the support and the tabs being generally coplanar.

67. (Original) The indication member of Claim 65,

wherein the indication member is a monolithically-formed single-piece member.

68. (Original) The indication member of Claim 65,
wherein the support is at least partially arcuate.

69. (Original) The indication member of Claim 68,
wherein the support is generally ring-shaped.

70. (Original) The indication member of Claim 68,
wherein the tabs each extend generally perpendicularly away from the support.

71. (Original) The indication member of Claim 70,
wherein the support includes a central axis; and
the tabs extend from the support in a direction generally away from the central axis.

72. (Original) The indication member of Claim 70,
wherein the support includes a central axis; and
the tabs extend from the support in a direction generally toward the central axis.

73. (Original) The indication member of Claim 65,
wherein the indication member is at least partially metallic.